

LONDON SOCIETY,

F O R

Educating Poor Children

I N T H E

PROTESTANT REFORMED RELIGION.

POPERY

Being replete with IDOLATRY and SUPERSTITION[†],

AND the WORD of GOD having denounced dreadful Curfes against IDOLATRY: AND the Papists in the present Day being very assiduous in propagating their wicked and superstitious Tenets amongst the Children of the Poor,

A NUMBER OF PROTESTANTS

Having met in Red Cross Street, on Thursday the first day of August, 1782, and having taken into their serious consideration the most effectual method in their power to prevent the spreading of POPERY, and that they may bear their testimony against IDOLATRY, have agreed to form a Society for the Education of poor Children in the PROTESTANT REFORMED RELIGION, and therefore have come to

The following RESOLUTIONS, Viz.

I. THAT a Society be formed called the "London Society, for educating Poor Children in the Protestant reformed Religion."

II. That a subscription be immediately opened to bear the expence of educating poor children, of both sexes, and all denominations, in the Protestant reformed Religion, who shall be thought proper objects of this charity.

III. That this Society do meet the second Thursday in every month (or oftener if occasion shall require) to receive subscriptions, and transact other necessary business of the charity. And that there be four general quarterly meetings in every year, viz. the second Thursday in January, the second Thursday in March, the second Thursday in June, and the second Thursday in September. And that seven members be sufficient to constitute a general meeting.

IV. That a Treasurer be annually chosen out of this Society, and a Secretary, and fifteen Committee Men, quarterly; five of whom shall be sufficient to form a board for transacting of business.

V. That at all general meetings no member shall vote but those present, (except Ladies who subscribe) and every thing shall be determined by a majority of votes, or by ballot. If in any case the majority on the vote appears doubtful, such ballot to be entered on immediately and finished; and where the numbers are equal, the chairman then presiding to have the casting vote.

VI. That no person be permitted to subscribe to this charity, unless he be known by two or more of the Society to be a Protestant.

VII. That whoever shall give to this charity eight shillings a year, shall be deemed a subscriber, and the subscriptions may be paid monthly or quarterly, at pleasure. Any dona-

tion to be received at any time by the Treasurer or Secretary, and at the monthly meetings.

VIII. That in case of the death or resignation of the Treasurer, Secretary, Schoolmaster, or Schoolmistress, a special general meeting shall be called within two weeks, for the choice of another.

IX. That proper persons (who are Protestants) be appointed to teach such children as shall become objects of this charity, in the Protestant reformed Religion; and in such way as shall be most agreeable to the subscribers in general. The Boys to be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. The Girls to be taught to read, write, sew, mark, &c.

X. That no children be admitted to this charity but those who are nominated by the subscribers, and approved of by the Committee. And every subscriber of one guinea a year, is to be at liberty to nominate one child; the said subscribers to take their turn to nominate according to the time of subscribing. And that any two yearly subscribers of ten shillings and six-pence each, may join in nominating a child. And that any three yearly subscribers of eight shillings each, may also join and nominate a child; and that such nomination shall be in rotation, according to the time of subscribing. And that no child shall be admitted under the age of seven years.

XI. That all children admitted to this charity shall be educated for two years: at the expiration of which term, provided the subscriptions will admit, and the Society judge it necessary, then those children shall continue in the School so long as the Society shall judge fit.

XII. That the subscribers shall be at liberty till the second Thursday in January, 1783, to admit such number of children as they shall think

proper, according to the subscriptions: but after that time no children shall be admitted, but at the four general quarterly meetings.

XIII. That the Committee for the time being shall examine into the character and conduct of the person or persons who may be intrusted with the education of the children, and report the same to the Society at every quarterly meeting.

XIV. That the Master or Mistress, neglecting to pay due attention to the instruction of the children, or for any great misbehaviour, shall, on the report of the Committee at the next quarterly general meeting, be discharged, and a special general meeting be called as soon as possible, for the choice of another.

XV. That the Master or Mistress shall be paid for the instruction of the children every quarter, viz. on the 29th day of September, the 25th day of December, the 25th day of March, and the 24th day of June.

XVI. That if any child, who shall be admitted into this charity, shall behave contrary to the rules, which shall be given to the parents or friends of such child at the time of admission, the Committee shall request the attendance of such parents or friends at their next meeting, when such parents or friends shall be admonished to comply with the rules of the charity. And in case of the non-attendance of such parents or friends, or the continued misbehaviour of any such child, then, and in either of the said cases, such child shall, by the Committee, be dismissed the school.

XVII. The teachers of such children shall keep an account of the children's attendance, and report the same to the Committee every month.

XVIII. That all the children, educated by this Society, shall, every Lord's day, both morn-

ing and afternoon, go to such place or places of worship as shall be appointed by the Society at a general quarterly meeting, unless a sufficient reason shall be given to the Schoolmaster, by the parents or friends of such child or children, for omitting thereof.

XIX. That there be no fixed number of children in the before mentioned school, it being the intention of this Society to educate, in the Protestant reformed Religion, as many as the subscription shall allow.

XX. That the children who are educated by this Society, shall be supplied with books, &c. according to the different stages of their education, at the expence of the Society, and the discretion of the Committee.

XXI. That after each yearly or quarterly meeting, the names and places of abode in writing, of the officers and receivers of subscriptions, shall be sent to every subscriber to this charity.

XXII. That the hours of transacting the business of this Society shall be from seven o'clock until nine in the evening, after which time no business shall be transacted.

XXIII. That no article or rule for governing of this charity, shall be made without the approbation and consent of the majority at a general quarterly meeting, except such as are made before the first meeting in the year of our Lord 1783.

XXIV. That if this Society shall have a sufficient fund, they shall contribute to the support of any other similar Society in England. And the accounts of this Society shall be subject to be audited by three delegates from any such similar society.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to this Charity, are received by the TREASURER, Mr. THOMAS MORLEY, Westmoreland Buildings, Aldersgate Street. And by the SECRETARY, Mr. JOSHUA BANGS, Lyons Inn.

[†] See Statute 30. Car. 2. Stat. 2. Cap. 1. Whereby King, Lords, and Commons, declare that the Invocation or Adoration of the Virgin Mary, or other Saint and Sacrifice of the Mass, as used by Papists, are superstitious and idolatrous.